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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

- 1 1. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:
 - 2 a control component that comprises an interface usable by an administrator to
 - 3 designate one or more tones and one or more announcements that are playable in a
 - 4 communication session as interruptible, wherein the one or more tones designated as
 - 5 interruptible are not limited to dial tone information streams.
- 1 2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the administrator employs the
- 2 interface to dynamically designate a tone as interruptible, wherein the tone is playable
- 3 at a communication device;
- 4 wherein the control component stops playing the tone at the communication
- 5 device without playing the tone to completion upon receipt of an interruption request
- 6 from a user of the communication device.
- 1 3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the administrator comprises a
- 2 service provider associated with the communication device,
- 3 wherein the service provider may customize a tone and/or announcement service
- 4 for the communication device by employing the interface to designate the one or more
- 5 tones and/or the one or more announcements as interruptible and one or more other
- 6 tones and/or one or more other announcements as not interruptible.
- 1 4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the user presses a button on the
- 2 communication device to initiate an interruption of the tone;
- 3 wherein the control component interprets the button press as the interruption

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4 request, wherein the control component stops playing the tone at the communication
5 device based on the button press.

1 5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the control component plays the
2 tone at the communication device in a communication session;

3 wherein the user of the communication device sends the interruption request to
4 the control component to skip a remainder of the tone and progress to a next phase in
5 the communication session;

6 wherein upon receipt of the interruption request, the control component moves to
7 the next phase in the communication session.

1 6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control component comprises
2 a mobile switching center.

1 7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a
2 configuration database that stores one or more indications associated with the one or
3 more tones and the one or more announcements that are designated by the
4 administrator as interruptible.

1 8. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the administrator
2 employs the interface to set the one or more indications in the configuration database to
3 represent that the one or more tones and the one or more announcements are
4 interruptible.

1 9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein upon receipt of an instruction to

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2 play a tone at a communication device, the mobile switching center accesses the
3 configuration database to determine whether the tone is indicated as interruptible or not
4 interruptible;

5 wherein the mobile switching center plays the tone at the communication device.

1 10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein upon receipt of an interruption
2 request from a user of the communication device, the mobile switching center stops
3 playing the tone at the communication device if the tone is indicated as interruptible;

4 wherein upon receipt of the interruption request from the user of the
5 communication device, the mobile switching center continues playing the tone at the
6 communication device if the tone is indicated as not interruptible.

1 11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the mobile switching center
2 comprises the interface to allow the administrator to update one or more of the one or
3 more indications from a representation of interruptible to a representation of not
4 interruptible.

1 12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control component allows
2 the administrator to set a designation of a tone as interruptible, wherein the control
3 component allows the administrator to change the designation of the tone to prevent
4 interruption of the tone.

1 13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more
2 tones and the one or more announcements that are playable in the communication
3 session comprise audible signals in a telephone call.

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1 14. (Currently amended) A method, comprising the step of:

2 interfacing an administrator with a configuration database to allow the
3 administrator to designate in the configuration database one or more tones and one or
4 more announcements that are playable in a communication session as interruptible,
5 wherein the one or more tones designated as interruptible are not limited to dial tone
6 information streams.

1 15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the administrator
2 comprises a service provider associated with a communication device, and wherein the
3 step of interfacing the administrator with the configuration database to allow the
4 administrator to designate in the configuration database the one or more tones and the
5 one or more announcements that are playable in the communication session as
6 interruptible further comprises the steps of:

7 allowing the service provider to modify the configuration database to customize a
8 tone and/or announcement service for the communication device; and

9 allowing access to the configuration database for the service provider to
10 designate the one or more tones and/or the one or more announcements as
11 interruptible and one or more other tones and/or one or more other announcements as
12 not interruptible.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the administrator dynamically
2 designates a tone of the one or more tones as interruptible, wherein the tone comprises
3 an audible signal in a telephone call, the method further comprising the steps of:

4 playing the tone at the communication device; and

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5 stopping the playing of the tone at the communication device before completion
6 of the tone upon receipt of an interruption request from a user of the communication
7 device.

1 17. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:
2 accessing the configuration database, upon receipt of an instruction to play a
3 tone at a communication device, to determine whether the tone is indicated in the
4 configuration database as interruptible or not interruptible; and
5 playing the tone at the communication device.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:
2 stopping the playing of the tone at the communication device upon receipt of an
3 interruption request from a user of the communication device if the tone is indicated as
4 interruptible; and
5 continuing to play the tone at the communication device upon receipt of the
6 interruption request from the user of the communication device if the tone is indicated
7 as not interruptible.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:
2 interfacing the administrator with the configuration database to allow the
3 administrator access to the configuration database for an update of a designation of one
4 or more of the one or more tones and/or the one or more announcements from a
5 representation of interruptible to a representation of not interruptible; and
6 preventing an interruption of the one or more of the one or more tones and/or the
7 one or more announcements with the representation of not interruptible.

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1. 20. (Currently amended) An article, comprising:
2. one or more computer-readable signal-bearing media; and
3. means in the one or more media for interfacing an administrator with a
4. configuration database to allow the administrator to designate in the configuration
5. database one or more tones and one or more announcements that are playable in a
6. communication session as interruptible, wherein the one or more tones designated as
7. interruptible are not limited to dial tone information streams.